

ΕΚΚΛΗΣΙΑ ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΙΚΟΣ ΠΛΗΡΩΜΑΤΟΣ
Apostolic Church of the Pleroma

*Delivered by Tau Phosphoros
to the Parish of St. Ambelain
on Friday, October 13, 2017*

YEAR A - FEAST OF HOLY TEMPLAR MARTYRDOM

My dear brethren,, greetings and salutations on this solemn feast day that we celebrate in recognition of the martyrdom of our ancient Templar brethren, and also in commemoration of the death of our venerable Master Louis-Cluade de Saint-Martin. This day is also very special to me personally, as it was on Friday, October 13th, 2000, that I received the accolade of the Templar Knighthood at the hands of Ronald V. Cappello and Alberto La Cava.

Today, therefore, we remember not only our fallen Templar brethren, but all the men and women throughout history, initiates of the lesser and great mysteries, who have died in the service of the Holy Light of Gnosis. They are the very Past Masters of the Tradition whom we invoke in our prayers and in our Works; they are the Holy and Illuminated Saints of the True Church; and we must honor them not only in recognition, but in furthering their work towards the Regeneration and Reintegration of humanity. That is to say that while we look to the past for guidance, support, and relief, we cannot dwell there. We must aim ever towards the future success by performing our required Work in the Present.

This goes to a topic that I'd like to address today; it concerns the idea of "Templar vengeance" that we see in certain grades and rites of the Masonic institution. We are all acquainted with the vicious betrayal of the corrupt French monarch, Philippe-le-bel, and his puppet pontiff Clement V; how they stole not only the physical wealth and the very lives of the Templars, but their dignity and good name. We advise that this betrayal, this treachery, never be forgotten. But to truly avenge the death and disgrace of Jacques de Molay and his fellow Knights, it is not enough to merely reclaim their material wealth, or to overthrow the powers responsible. In fact, as Knights of a spiritual chivalry, the material recompense should not even be a concern. To linger upon such temporal, transient, insubstantial matters may only lead to ensnaring oneself in a cycle of vengeance unfulfilled. We also have to consider the natural and universal law that states the punishing an evil by committing another evil only compounds the wrong done, it in no wise negates the first evil. Thus, killing a person who has killed does not bring justice to the first killed, it only commits a second murder.

So too must our concept of "Templar vengeance" evolve beyond the demiurgic law of "an eye for an eye." Such a so-called "law" only perpetuates indefinitely the cycle of human destruction, and prevents the perfection of the soul. Our law is the law of Love; and the best way to honor the Templars and all those who have come before us and fallen in service to what is just and true, is to become a living example of the ideals for which they lived, fought, and died.

Our modern Knighthood is a Spiritual Knighthood, and it is with the weapons of the Spiritual Master that our battles against the forces of darkness and ignorance shall be won. Where the mind is, the body follows. It is therefore upon the collective psyche, or soul, of humanity that we must operate our Great Work. Only in this way - in carrying out our mission of a Spiritual Knighthood - may Jacques de Molay and all the Holy and Blessed Templars be vindicated, and the wrongs committed against them truly avenged.

We must, therefore, my fellow Knights of the True Cross, never forget the sacrifices made on our behalf; but neither must we allow a heart filled with hatred to guide our actions. I will say quite plainly that those who operated from a center of hatred are not in or of the Light; they are not true Knights of the Temple of the Holy City. But you are...we are. Let us go forth into battle bearing the standard of Light and Truth.